

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01028 121545Z

43

ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 ORM-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EA-07 ABF-01

AID-05 FDRE-00 VO-03 SCA-01 /034 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8114

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: UNHCR REPATRIATION PROGRAM (REFUGEES FROM CAMBODIA
AND VIETNAM IN CONUS)

REF: STATE 008094

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM DEPUTY UNHCR
RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS PRESENTED REFTEL. TEXT
OF LETTER FOLLOWS: QTE THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF
20 JANUARY 1976. AS YOU KNOW, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
APPEALED ON 8 AND 28 MAY 1975 TO GOVERNMENTS FOR
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN ORDER TO COVER UNHCR ACTIVITIES
CONNECTED WITH ASSISTANCE TO INDOCHINESE DISPLACED
PERSONS INCLUDING THEIR VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION. AS
THESE FUNDS ARE PRACTICALLY EXHAUSTED, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
WILL SHORTLY BE MAKING A FOLLOW-UP APPEAL FOR FURTHER
CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENABLE HIM TO CONTINUE PROVIDING
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN LINE WITH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION 3455 ADOPTED AT THE LAST SESSION. IT IS ONLY
AFTER WE HAVE IN HAND THE RESPONSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY TO THE FOLLOW-UP APPEAL THAT WE COULD,
CONCRETELY, BE IN A POSITION TO COMMENT ON THE OVERALL
QUESTION RAISED IN YOUR SECOND PARAGRAPH (I.E. WHETHER
CONTRIBUTIONS MIGHT BE SOLICITED FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS.)
HOWEVER, REGARDING SPECIFICALLY THE QUESTION OF INTEREST
EARNED ON FUNDS ADVANCED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01028 121545Z

REPATRIATION, I SHOULD LIKE TO MENTION THAT IN ACCORDANCE

WITH UNHCR'S FINANCIAL RULES GOVERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF VOLUNTARY FUNDS WE ARE REQUIRED TO CREDIT ANY INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS TO OUR GENERAL FUND, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THERE HAS SO FAR NEVER BEEN A NEED TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE A DEPARTURE FROM THIS RULE, PARTICULARLY SINCE DONOR GOVERNMENTS HAVE RECOGNISED THAT MAINTAINING SEPARATE INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS FOR EACH CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED WOULD CONSIDERABLY COMPLICATE UNHCR'S ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS. YOUR LETTER ALSO RAISED THE QUESTION OF PUBLICITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FUNDING OF THE REPATRIATION OF CAMBODIANS AND VIETNAMESE FROM U.S. TERRITORY, I BELIEVE THIS QUESTION COULD BE DISCUSSED, IF NEED BE, AT THE MOMENT IT ACTUALLY ARISES. IN ANY EVENT, WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO REVERT THE MATTER BEFORE JUNE 30. IN REPLY TO THE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ANNEXED TO YOUR LETTER, I SHOULD LIKE TO OFFER THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(1) THE COST OF THE PRESENT CONTRACT BETWEEN UNHCR AND ACNS FOR THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF CAMBODIANS IN PHILADELPHIA AWAITING REPATRIATION IS \$174,605. THE PRESENT CONTRACT PERIOD ENDS 10 MARCH 1976.

(2) THE AMOUNT OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION EXPECTED TO BE UTILIZED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF CALENDAR YEAR 1976 DEPENDS ON THE ACTUAL MOVEMENT OF REPATRIATES TO INDOCHINA. IT IS PRESENTLY UNCLEAR WHAT MOVEMENT THERE MAY BE DURING THE FIRST QUARTER; NEVERTHELESS I MIGHT MENTION THAT A TOTAL OF 345 VIETNAMESE HAVE SO FAR REGISTERED WITH UNHCR FOR REPATRIATION FROM THE UNITED STATES. THEIR RETURN, WHEN IT OCCURS, WILL COST LESS THAN \$1,000 PER PERSON. THE TOTAL COST WOULD DEPEND GREATLY ON THE EXACT MODALITIES FOLLOWED. FOR EXAMPLE, IF ALL CANDIDATES WERE TO BE REPATRIATED AS A GROUP, THE COST WILL BE LESS THAN IF THERE WERE TO BE TRANSPORTED INDIVIDUALLY OR IN SMALL GROUPS. I HOPE THE ABOVE PROVIDES THE INFORMATION YOU REQUIRE; PLEASE LET US KNOW IF WE CAN BE OF ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE.

UNQTE

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH MISOFF THIS MORNING, UNHCR FISCAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 01028 121545Z

SECTION PROMISED TRANSMISSION OF QUARTERLY PROJECTIONS AS SOON AS FIGURES RECEIVED FROM THEIR BANGKOK OFFICE. BRUNGART

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